

**Prescription Medicines<sup>a</sup>-Median and Mean Expenses per Person With Expense and Distribution of Expenses by Source of Payment: United States, 1996**

Population Characteristic	Population (in thousands)	Percent with expense	Per person with an expense		Total Expenses (in millions)	Percent distribution of total expenses by source of payment				
			Median	Mean		Out of pocket	Private insurance <sup>b</sup>	Medicare	Medicaid	Other <sup>c</sup>
<b>Total</b>	268,905	64.9	114	374	65,292	44.4	40.0	1.5	10.0	4.0
<b><u>Age in years</u></b>										
Under 65	234,856	61.6	87	291	42,144	40.2	44.9	0.2	11.0	3.7
Under 6	23,861	65.9	35	79	1,239	40.6	42.3	0.0*	15.9	1.1*
6-17	47,634	50.4	39	124	2,989	36.8	46.8	0.0*	15.1	1.4*
18-44	109,149	59.6	87	242	15,733	40.1	43.7	0.2*	12.1	4.0
45-64	54,212	73.6	242	556	22,183	40.6	45.7	0.3	9.4	4.0
65 and over	34,050	87.6	467	776	23,147	52.1	31.1	3.8	8.3	4.7
<b><u>Sex</u></b>										
Male	131,527	58.3	91	332	25,481	42.0	40.5	1.5	9.6	6.3
Female	137,379	71.3	134	407	39,811	45.9	39.7	1.4	10.3	2.6
<b><u>Race/ethnicity</u></b>										
White and Other	205,258	68.4	124	394	55,385	45.3	41.8	1.5	7.3	4.1
Black	33,668	54.4	97	323	5,910	40.2	26.9	1.1	27.7	4.1
Hispanic	29,979	52.7	59	253	3,998	37.8	34.5	2.0*	22.1	3.6
<b><u>Health insurance status<sup>d</sup></u></b>										
<65, Any private	174,231	65.2	91	285	32,417	39.2	58.1	0.1*	1.2	1.4
<65, Public only	27,845	64.0	86	387	6,906	26.1	0.7	0.9	61.1	11.2
<65, Uninsured	32,780	40.6	57	212	2,821	85.7	1.6	0.0*	1.0*	11.8
65+, Medicare only	7,535	80.2	436	687	4,152	72.1	1.1*	13.1	0.9*	12.9
65+, Medicare and private	22,811	90.4	472	777	16,036	51.2	44.5	1.4	0.8	2.1
65+, Medicare and other public	3,555	87.7	490	948	2,955	29.1	0.9*	3.8*	59.3	7.0
65+, Missing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b><u>Poverty status<sup>e</sup></u></b>										
Negative or Poor	38,298	59.1	88	374	8,464	39.0	15.2	1.1	38.7	6.1
Near-poor	12,946	63.4	138	419	3,433	52.2	19.5	5.0*	17.1	6.2*
Low income	40,460	60.5	129	415	10,164	49.9	30.5	1.8	12.2	5.6
Middle income	88,262	64.4	102	366	20,812	43.7	46.4	1.3	4.9	3.6
High income	88,939	70.1	125	359	22,419	43.5	50.9	1.1	1.9	2.6
<b><u>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)</u></b>										
MSA	213,752	64.8	110	362	50,103	42.9	41.9	1.6	9.4	4.1
Non-MSA	52,419	65.4	123	415	14,242	49.6	34.1	0.6*	12.0	3.7
Missing	2,734	64.3	284	539	947	44.4	30.5	5.7*	15.0*	4.4*
<b><u>Census Region</u></b>										
Northeast	51,965	64.6	102	349	11,725	40.7	44.6	1.2*	9.2	4.2
Midwest	62,673	68.4	120	394	16,911	44.5	40.3	1.1	9.9	4.3
South	93,901	65.2	131	404	24,744	48.4	35.5	1.1	11.1	3.9
West	60,366	61.1	87	323	11,912	39.6	44.6	3.1	8.8	3.9

**Standard Errors for Prescription Medicines<sup>a</sup>-Median and Mean Expenses per Person With Expense and Distribution of Expenses by Source of Payment: United States, 1996**

Population Characteristic	Population (in thousands)	Percent with expense	Per person with an expense		Total Expenses (in millions)	Percent distribution of total expenses by source of payment				
			Median	Mean		Out of pocket	Private insurance <sup>b</sup>	Medicare	Medicaid	Other <sup>c</sup>
<b>Total</b>	†	0.4	3	8	2,034	0.9	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.3
<b><u>Age in years</u></b>										
Under 65	†	0.4	3	8	1,538	1.0	1.3	0.0	1.1	0.4
Under 6	†	1.4	2	5	97	1.7	2.4	0.0*	1.9	0.5*
6-17	†	1.0	2	16	397	4.5	6.5	0.0*	2.6	0.6*
18-44	†	0.6	3	9	751	1.2	1.6	0.1*	1.2	0.6
45-64	†	0.8	10	20	1,043	1.5	1.9	0.1	1.5	0.6
65 and over	†	0.8	19	26	1,130	1.4	1.4	0.5	1.0	0.6
<b><u>Sex</u></b>										
Male	†	0.6	3	11	972	1.1	1.3	0.3	1.1	0.7
Female	†	0.5	4	11	1,416	1.2	1.3	0.2	0.9	0.4
<b><u>Race/ethnicity</u></b>										
White and Other	†	0.5	4	10	1,912	0.9	1.0	0.2	0.7	0.4
Black	†	1.1	8	21	518	2.2	2.0	0.3	3.5	0.9
Hispanic	†	1.2	4	26	453	3.7	6.2	1.0*	3.1	0.7
<b><u>Health insurance status<sup>d</sup></u></b>										
<65, Any private	4,618	0.5	3	9	1,345	1.0	1.1	0.0*	0.2	0.3
<65, Public only	1,401	1.2	8	26	590	2.0	0.1	0.2	2.8	1.9
<65, Uninsured	1,394	1.1	5	21	326	2.3	0.3	0.0*	0.7*	2.0
65+, Medicare only	480	1.7	36	39	358	2.5	0.6*	1.9	0.3*	2.1
65+, Medicare and private	906	0.8	25	34	971	1.6	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.4
65+, Medicare and other public	271	2.0	74	80	348	2.2	0.4*	1.4*	3.5	2.0
65+, Missing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b><u>Poverty status<sup>e</sup></u></b>										
Negative or Poor	†	1.1	8	21	537	2.2	1.6	0.2	2.9	1.1
Near-poor	†	2.0	19	37	342	3.4	2.8	1.6*	3.5	2.9*
Low income	†	1.1	8	23	664	2.1	2.1	0.4	1.6	1.0
Middle income	†	0.7	5	17	1,161	1.6	2.1	0.2	0.9	0.7
High income	†	0.7	5	12	942	1.2	1.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
<b><u>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)</u></b>										
MSA	†	0.5	4	9	1,667	1.0	1.2	0.2	0.9	0.4
Non-MSA	†	1.0	8	21	1,144	1.9	2.0	0.2*	1.7	0.5
Missing	†	3.7	70	79	173	4.1	4.5	3.6*	5.1*	1.5*
<b><u>Census Region</u></b>										
Northeast	†	1.0	7	17	666	1.6	1.7	0.4*	1.3	0.6
Midwest	†	0.9	8	19	1,090	1.5	1.8	0.3	1.3	0.8
South	†	0.7	6	13	1,334	1.5	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.5
West	†	0.9	6	19	897	2.1	3.0	0.4	1.5	0.8

a Expenses for all prescribed medicines initially purchased or otherwise obtained during the year, as well as any refills, are included. Free samples are included in the estimate of percent of persons with any expense.

b Private insurance includes CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage).

c Other includes other public programs such as Department of Veterans Affairs (except CHAMPVA); other Federal sources (Indian Health Service, military treatment facilities, and other care provided by the Federal Government); other State and local sources (community and neighborhood clinics, State and local health departments, and State programs other than Medicaid); and other public (Medicaid payments reported for persons who were not enrolled in the Medicaid program at any time during the year). Other also includes Worker's Compensation; other unclassified sources (e.g., automobile, homeowner's, liability, and other miscellaneous or unknown sources); and other private insurance (any type of private insurance payments reported for persons without private health insurance coverage during the year, as defined in MEPS).

d Uninsured refers to persons uninsured during the entire year. Public and private health insurance categories refer to individuals with public or private insurance at any time during the period; individuals with both public and private insurance and those with CHAMPUS or CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage) are classified as having insurance.

e Poor refers to incomes below the Federal poverty line; near poor, over the poverty line through 125 percent of the poverty line; low income, over 125 percent through 200 percent of the poverty line; middle income, over 200 percent to 400 percent of the poverty line; and high income, over 400 percent of the poverty line.

† Standard error approximately zero because of poststratification to Census Bureau population control tables.

-- Less than 100 sample cases.

\* Relative standard error equal to or greater than 30%.

**Source:** Center for Cost and Financing Studies, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, 1996.